



Ye Olde Metro Creative Graphics

People celebrate Halloween with the same zeal as Thanksgiving and Christmas. Decorating for Halloween has evolved over the years, and many homeowners now go to great lengths to turn their humble abodes into horrific haunts. Achieving a haunted house vibe is easier than one might think with some creative ideas.

•Dim the lights: Turning down the lights immediately increases the spooky factor for Halloween. The mind may jump to its own conclusions about what is nestled in a shadowy corner or just around the bend. Turning off lights and relying on flickering candles or battery-operated lanterns will also hide any imperfections in your decor.

•Direct light upwards: Outdoors, position low-angle spotlights or floodlights pointing up at walls or trees to cast long, harsh shadows that seem scary.

•Board up the windows: Tape lightweight painted cardboard strips across windows to mimic the look of an abandoned home. Scary shapes cut from cardboard or black paper can be taped inside of windows and backlit by dim lights to create an eerie atmosphere.

•Utilize fog machines: If available, a fog machine near an entrance or in a hallway can provide a dense, disorienting haze. Again, it will reduce visibility, which can make a haunted house seem more frightening.

•Tactile scares: Hang loose, dark pieces of string,

tattered scrap fabric or faux spider webs from ceilings so that they will lightly brush against passers-by in dark areas. A hidden fan can be positioned to blow a sudden, chilly draft across a doorway to mimic a passing spirit.

•Haunted portraits: Inexpensive thrift store frames can dress up eerie vintage photos or lenticular shifting images purchased online. For a real fright, have someone pose behind a frame and actually move or reach out as visitors go by.

•Creepy dolls: Gather tattered, old plastic dolls and hang or display them clustered together. Or paint them all white and splatter them with red paint to look like blood.

•Obscured paths: Create blind corners and obscured paths so visitors cannot anticipate what is waiting ahead. Use dark sheets or black painter's canvas taped securely to the ceiling. Position "actors" along the way to achieve jump scares.

•Scary sounds: Place Bluetooth speakers throughout the haunted house to play a loop of screams, squeaky hinge noises or footsteps to keep guests off-kilter.

A haunted house is expected for Halloween thrills, and it's easy to create a spooky atmosphere with a little effort.



Buy & Sell

Classifieds & Notices



ARTICLES FOR SALE

VAMPIRE STAKES — Set of three, hand-carved hardwood. Two unused. One slightly used. Previous owner no longer available for comment. \$18.
MIRROR — Large Victorian pier mirror. Excellent condition. Reflection occasionally delayed. \$25 or best offer.
COFFIN — Nearly new. Walnut. Plush interior. Previous occupant only used weekends. \$75. Delivery after sunset available.

CRYSTAL BALL — Genuine antique. Shows future clearly but insists on giving bad news first. \$20.
ROCKING CHAIR — Oak rocker. Rocks beautifully. No person required. \$15.
GRANDFATHER CLOCK — Runs well. Chimes 13 times at midnight. Watchmaker says this is "not mechanically possible." \$40 firm.

TYPEWRITER — Black Underwood. Several keys stick. Occasionally finishes sentences without assistance. \$30.
VINTAGE CAMERA — Bellows type. Photographs include one extra person approximately 40% of the time. \$22.
WEDDING DRESS — White, late-Victorian style. Never worn according to seller. Previous owner insists otherwise. \$35.

TOP HAT — Gentleman's black silk hat. Size unknown. Fits whoever picks it up. \$10.
LANTERN — Railroad-style kerosene lantern. Flame sometimes turns blue near Artpark. \$16.

SHIP'S BELL — Brass. Excellent tone. Rings by itself during heavy fog. \$50.
OLD HOTEL KEY — Brass key marked ROOM 17. No hotel in Lewiston presently admits to having a Room 17. \$8.

WOODEN CANE — Thornwood walking stick. Excellent condition. Points toward Canada when left unattended. \$14.
TEA SET — Six cups, six saucers, one pot. Seven cups occasionally found on table.

BOTTLE COLLECTION — Twenty antique medicine bottles recovered locally. Seventeen empty. Three refuse inspection. \$25.
OLD SHOVELS — Pair found near escarpment. Dirt still attached. Seller refuses to say where. \$10 each, \$15 pair.

CANADIAN QUARTERS — Approximately \$7 face value. Found carefully stacked beneath international bridge. Will trade for granola bars.
BINOCULARS — High-power. Excellent for birdwatching, river traffic and unidentified lights above escarpment. \$20.
FISHING NET — Heavy duty. Used once attempting to land something considerably larger than the boat. \$35.

THREE-HEADED BASS MOUNT — Taxidermy specimen reportedly caught near the sand docks. Middle head has different opinion about everything. Offers.

FOG HORN — Brass marine horn. Works well. Sometimes answers itself from river. \$25.
PAIR OF BOOTS — Men's size 11, black leather. Mud on soles cannot be removed. Boots occasionally found near front door in morning. \$9.

WOODEN SCHOOL DESK — Authentic old-classroom style. Initials carved underneath. One set appears newer each year. \$15.
BELL ROPE — Heavy braided rope, approximately 25 feet. Removed after bell began ringing without it. \$6.

FRAMED PORTRAIT — Unknown gentleman, circa 1850s. Attractive frame. Subject changes expression depending upon room temperature. \$12.
COMPASS — Brass pocket compass. North works correctly everywhere except Niagara Street, where it points toward Oak Hill. \$18.

WANTED TO BUY — Old maps showing tunnels beneath Artpark, Oak Hill or anything marked simply "DO NOT ENTER."

WANTED — Old maps showing tunnels beneath Artpark, Oak Hill or anything marked simply "DO NOT ENTER."



LOST & FOUND

FOUND — One black gentleman's walking cane on Niagara Street after midnight. Owner may claim by correctly identifying century.

LOST — White dog near Artpark. Friendly. May be accompanied by woman in white. If encountered, please do not separate them.

FOUND — Brass hotel key near Lewiston waterfront. No corresponding building located.

LOST — Approximately six hours sometime between midnight and sunrise. Last remembered near Center Street. Reward for safe return.

FOUND — Pair of muddy footprints beginning in middle of Red Brick hallway and ending at locked door.

LOST — One shadow. Owner reports it detached somewhere near the escarpment. Responds poorly to direct sunlight.

FOUND — Several Canadian coins beneath Lewiston-Queenston Bridge. Individual claiming them must describe creature from whom they were allegedly received.

LOST — Small black cat, answers to "Mabel." Frequently returns home before owner begins searching. Posting included at cat's insistence.

FOUND — Antique spoon frozen into riverbank ice well above normal waterline. Identify hotel monogram to claim.

LOST — One hour from grandfather clock. Clock insists it was never missing.

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED — Old maps showing tunnels beneath Artpark, Oak Hill or anything marked simply "DO NOT ENTER."